

# 1998 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards presented

**P**resident Clinton once again participated in the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award ceremony, his fifth year of participating in what he called a chance to show "that there are American companies who are operating at world-class levels ..."

The 1998 ceremony was held Feb. 4 at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, D.C. Three companies – Boeing Airlift and Tanker Programs, Long Beach, Calif; Texas Nameplate Co. Inc., Dallas, Texas; and Solar Turbines Inc., San Diego, Calif., were honored for their achievements in performance excellence.

Congress established the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 1987 to enhance U.S. competitiveness by promoting quality awareness, recognizing quality and business achievements of U.S. companies, and publicizing the winners' successful performance. Starting in 1999, non-profit educational organizations and health care providers will be eligible to apply for the award. The program is managed by the Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology in conjunction with private industry. Screening of applications for the award is conducted by leading U.S. quality and business experts.

"Boeing Airlift and Tanker, Texas Nameplate, Solar Turbines," said Clinton, "You're showing the world that you can enhance competitiveness and make companies better places to work. You're showing the world that you can be good at what you do and happy while you do it. The employees are true stakeholders in the progress not only of their companies, but of our country, with new ideas and sharing in results."

Boeing Airlift and Tanker won in the Manufacturing Category; Texas Nameplate Co. Inc., won in the Small Business Category; and Solar Turbines Inc., also won in the Manufacturing Category.

**Editor's Note:** For further information on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, contact Jan Kosko ([janice.kosko@nist.gov](mailto:janice.kosko@nist.gov)) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, (301) 975-2762.



THE MALCOLM BALDRIGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD WAS ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS IN 1987 TO PROMOTE QUALITY AWARENESS, TO RECOGNIZE QUALITY ACHIEVEMENTS OF U.S. COMPANIES, AND TO PUBLICIZE SUCCESSFUL QUALITY STRATEGIES. THE AWARD IS NOT GIVEN FOR SPECIFIC PRODUCTS OR SERVICES. IN COOPERATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED AND CONTINUES TO MANAGE THE AWARD PROGRAM.